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[WHOLE No. 69.]

## Tactics.

*From the United Service Magazine.*  
INFANTRY FIELD MOVEMENTS.

We call the attention of military men to a paper in our present Number, suggesting alterations in the formation of a battalion to afford means of changing its front to the rear without countermarching in the usual manner, and of making formations on a reverse flank.

Any system of field movements, when once laid down, published, and ordered to be acted on to the letter, must not be lightly disturbed, even when manifest improvements present themselves, which they must do in tactics as well as in all human contrivances. But as Dundas yielded to Torrens, so, at some future day, we shall have another revised system of manœuvres, and in the mean time it is incumbent on all soldiers who have the reputation of the Service at heart, to treasure up any suggested alterations which are entitled to be considered as improvements.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mann's views possess great originality, and to us seem very practicable; we are moreover assured by a friend of ours, who saw them tested on a small scale many years ago, that the result of the trial was most satisfactory.

*Proposed alterations in the formation of a battalion, to afford the means of changing its front to the rear without countermarching in the usual manner; and of making formations on a reverse flank.*

BY F. W. MANN, ESQ., LATE LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROYAL STAFF CORPS.

### FORMATION OF THE BATTALION.

The wings to be numbered 1 and 2, No. 1 to be on the right when the battalion is first formed. See Fig. 1, in the accompanying sketch.

The companies to be numbered from the colors to the flanks; the numbers in one wing to correspond with those in the other.

The sub-divisions and sections to be numbered from the inward flanks of companies; the former 1 and 2, the latter 1, 2, 3, 4.

The flank men of companies, &c., &c., to be told off only as flank men, without regard to right or left, for reasons that will be perceived hereafter.

The files to be numbered from the inward to the outward flanks of companies, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, &c.

The files to be distinguished by their odd and even numbers, instead of right and left. See Note 1.

The wings to be called by their numbers, or by right and left, as they may happen to be right or left at the time. See Note 2.

The companies are to be distinguished both by

their numbers and by the wings to which they are attached; for instance, if the Commanding Officer have occasion to name the 3d company of the 1st wing, he would call it 1st No. 3, or right (or left) No. 3.

The sub-divisions and sections are to be called either by their numbers, or right and left, as circumstances may render it advisable. See Note 6.

The battalion being formed as above directed, and the men instructed in two new, but simple manœuvres, which will be explained hereafter, the following advantages may be gained, viz.:

That all the movements and formations now made to the front, and on the proper pivot flank, may be made in the same manner, and in nearly the same time, to the rear, and on the reverse flank.

#### EXAMPLE I.

The battalion being in line, the front is to be changed to the rear.

Form four deep. After the ranks are opened, the odd files move to the right and in rear of the even. Countermarch the double files as follows: The front man of each double file faces to the right about, and the remaining men form behind him, facing in the same direction; the supernumerary rank then passes through the intervals; the odd files move up into their original places, that is, on the right of the even; the rear rank closes to the front, and the officers shift to the right of their companies.

When the battalion is required to resume its former front, the above directions are in every respect to be followed; the odd files falling in rear of those even files which are at the time upon their right.

When four deep is formed for other purposes, or the double files are not countermarched; the odd files in re-forming two deep, come up of course in the usual manner on the left of the even.

When a single file is left on either flank, it will be countermarched in the same manner as the double file; excepting that the front rank man will step aside for the moment, to allow the rear rank man to pass.

#### EXAMPLE II.

The battalion being in open column right in front, the line is to be formed to the right, on the reverse flank.

Face the divisions to the left, and countermarch them by ranks outwards; the front rank to the right, the rear rank to the left, halt, front. The pivot flanks being changed, wheel right into line. See Fig. 2, A, and Notes 3 and 4.

If instead of forming on the reverse flank as above, the line which is to face in the same direction is to be formed on the pivot flank c.

Wheel left into line, and countermarch by double files.

## EXAMPLE III.

The battalion being in open column right in front, the line is to be formed to the front, on the right or reverse flank of the front division. See Fig. 2, B.

Countermarch by ranks outwards as before directed to change the pivot flanks, move up the rear divisions to the right of the front division, and the line will be formed as required.

## EXAMPLE IV.

The battalion being in echelon left in front, and unexpectedly attacked on its left flank, is required to form line on the leading division, to face the enemy. See Fig. 3.

Countermarch by double files, wheel the named division into the proposed new alignment, and form the others upon its left.

## EXAMPLE V.—MOVEMENTS IN DOUBLE COLUMN.

The battalion being in line is to retire from the centre over a bridge or short defile, and to form line to the former rear.

Instead of retiring as prescribed in regulations, countermarch by double files. The front being changed to the rear, move forward (that is, to the new front) in double column of subdivisions in the usual manner. Form line to the new front on the two centre subdivisions, and the battalion will be in the required position.

If the front of the column is to be diminished on the march, the 2d and 4th sections of *both wings* will turn inwards, and double in rear of the 1st and 3d, and in reforming subdivisions, the same sections (that is, the 2d and 4th) will move up to their original places by the oblique double march. See Note 8.

The above methods of countermarching are applicable in all situations where such countermarches could be required; also to guards or detachments when paraded, although they may have been told off from different flanks, the inward flanks being easily changed by the countermarch of ranks outwards. Guards or detachments, when manœuvred, must be considered only as a wing of a battalion.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The proposed alterations may very possibly be objected to from a conception of their being opposed to the principles upon which the present system of field movements is founded. Whether there be any real grounds for this objection, although the alterations are adapted to all existing manœuvres, or whether any ill effects would result from departing in any degree from these principles, are questions upon which I must refrain from making any remarks.

The preceding examples explain the manner in which the different formations are to be made. I shall now endeavor to show their practicability by a few remarks upon the present formation of the battalion compared with that which is proposed, and by some observations upon the countermarches of double files and of ranks outwards.

The different parts of the battalion are at present numbered from the right; and the wings, subdivisions, sections, and files, are *named* right and left; which mode of telling off could not (it is presumed)

be objected to, if immediate changes from front to rear, and formations on a reverse flank, were not occasionally required; but as the numbers must be inverted, and the parts named right must necessarily become left (or the contrary) when faced to the rear without moving from the ground on which they are posted, no movements could be made whilst thus situated, without the risk of confusion; hence the necessity at present, when the rear rank is in front, of making a distinction between what is actually right (or left) and what is termed the proper right (or left.)

When formations are made on a reverse flank, the consequent inversion of companies, subdivisions, or sections, creates even greater difficulties than exist in changes from front to rear.

If these observations be correct, it may be inferred that the sole cause of the inconveniences alluded to originates from the inversions in the above cases, and, that in forming the battalion, such an arrangement of the numbers or terms by which the different parts are to be distinguished, should be made as could not be altered either by any change of front to the rear, or formation on a reverse flank; by numbering from the colors and inward flanks of companies (points which can never vary) this effect will be produced.

How far the proposed countermarches would answer all the purposes for which they are intended; or whether in the execution of the various movements the several parts of the battalion thus formed, could be as easily distinguished and directed as they are at present, are questions for the consideration of more competent judges than myself. I, notwithstanding, would venture some remarks upon them to explain my views.

Respecting the manner of performing the two countermarches, I have nothing to add to the explanations given in the first and second examples. Their effects, it will be perceived, are as follows.

The countermarch of double files changes the front to the rear without moving the flanks; the countermarch of ranks outwards changes the flanks without altering the front; and both are made without deranging the order in which the companies, &c., &c., had been originally told off\*; it therefore appears evident that if no difficulties exist in the execution of them, they effect all that could be required.

The only alteration caused by either of the countermarches, is, that right (or left) after the countermarch is the reverse of what it was before; but as the numbers by which the different parts are to be distinguished *have no reference whatever to right or left*, but only to the colors and inward flanks of companies, it is very certain that if the officers at

\* The countermarch of ranks outwards is necessary to preserve the order in which the different parts of the battalion are placed. For instance, if the battalion were in line, and its front changed to the rear by the countermarch of double files, the relative position of the *files* with each other would be the reverse of what it was at first; but if the line became faced to the rear by the wheeling of companies, that is, by its having been wheeled into column, and then into line on the reverse flank without countermarching by ranks outwards, the *companies* would be inverted, but not the *files*. As there should be no difference in the relative position of the files with each other in the above cases, (and the countermarch of ranks outwards not only changes the flanks but inverts the files,) this countermarch must always be made previous to any formation on a reverse flank.

The formation to the front on a reverse flank, shown in Example III, Fig. 2d. E, could not be made by any other means.



all times bear in mind the situation of these points, and that the men recollect the numbers of their subdivisions and sections, the officers can have no difficulty in naming or directing the different parts individually; when named collectively, another mode of distinguishing them must in general be adopted. See Notes 5 and 6. But as cases may in course of practice be found in which it would be more convenient to call them, either individually or collectively, right and left, as they may happen to be right or left at the time, the following observations are made, which, it is presumed, will in a great measure show that these terms may be used without the risk of mistakes.

The only points to which a soldier's attention would be required are as follows:

1st. Whether his company is in the right or left wing.

2d. Whether his subdivision or section \* is on the right or left of his company.

3d. If a pivot man, whether he is on the right or left of his company, subdivision, &c.

With respect to the first, I must remark that if a soldier did not at all times see the situation of the wing to which he belongs, his relative position with the two men he is standing between would make it known. When the man who was on his inward flank at the time the battalion was first formed is on his right, his company belongs to the left wing; and of course the contrary when the same man is on his left.

With regard to the second, I have only to observe that a soldier is now constantly obliged to make himself acquainted with his own situation and that of his company, subdivision, &c., which he could not possibly do otherwise than by his own observations at the time; for instance, when files are broken off from a flank, when orders are given to the reverse subdivisions, &c., when ordered to face or turn inwards or outwards, and when obliged to distinguish what is actually right (or left) from what is termed the proper right (or left) †—if all this can now be done without difficulty or confusion, it is reasonable to suppose that a soldier could be brought into the habit of distinguishing right from left in the cases here required of him.

As to the third point, it appears quite impossible that any man should not know the company or subdivision to which he belongs; or its being known to him, that any doubt should exist in his mind as to its being on his right hand or on his left.

These considerations appear to remove all apprehension of difficulties arising from the changes of right and left, but these terms (as I have before expressed) are only to be used in cases where numbers would not be practicable.

The following example, which combines some of the most important manœuvres now practised, will

\* When in line or column of companies, the sections may be called right and left, and right and left centre, when in column of subdivisions, by right and left only.

† This distinction, which so often embarrasses the soldier would not in the proposed system be required; since right and left, whether the rear rank is in front or not, is never to be considered but as it actually is at the moment.

in a great measure prove that the mode of numbering from the colors and inward flanks of companies, is adapted to the present system of field-movements; and will likewise show that in all formations on the centre (particularly squares) the manner of performing them can, by the similarity of numbers in the wings, be more easily explained than they are at present.

#### EXAMPLE VI.

The battalion being in line, (either before or after its front is changed by the countermarch of double files,) is to form square four deep on the two centre subdivisions, to reform line, or to form double column of subdivisions at quarter distance.

On the word "form square," the colours and centre Sergeants fall to the rear; the 2d subdivisions of the two centre companies, and the subdivisions of the flank companies, face inwards and disengage to the rear; the 2d and 3d companies of both wings face to the right about. On the word "quick (or double) march," the 1st subdivisions of the two centre companies close upon the interval left by the colors, while the 2d subdivisions move by files, and form in rear of them; the 2d and 3d companies of both wings move by sections to form the sides of the square, in which the sections numbered 1 will be covered outside by those numbered 2, and Nos. 3 by 4: the flank companies at the same time move in file by subdivisions to form the rear face, in which the 1st subdivisions will be covered outside by the 2d.

When the different parts arrive at their respective posts they are to be faced outwards.

The inside section of the side-faces fall back to quarter-distance, on the word "quick march," all the sections which form the side-faces wheel backwards into subdivisions, while the two outside subdivisions in the front-face, and all the subdivisions in the rear-face advance to quarter-distance: the latter, on being halted, come to their proper front.

If, instead of the last manœuvre, the line had been re-formed, the sections of the side-faces might have wheeled backwards into subdivisions, as described above, while the outside subdivisions of the front face opened out, to afford space for the colors: the line could then have been formed by deploying in the usual way.

In explaining the manner in which these manœuvres are to be executed by a battalion formed according to the present system, No. 1 or 2 company, &c., would be described as having to perform in one wing what is required of No. 5 or 6 in the other; also the movements of the right subdivisions and sections in one wing, would be the same as the left in the other; and in that part of the battalion which is faced to the right about, the subdivisions and sections which are actually right, would be called left;

By Commanding Officer. By Officers of Companies.

On the two centre subdivisions in directing the subdivisions and sections, will call them by their members.

Quick or double march.

Form double column of subdivisions at quarter distance, quick march

these difficulties, however, (which must, in some degree, tend to confuse the men and cause mistakes,) appear by the above example (Example VI) to be obviated by the alterations in question.

Having, by the preceding examples and observations, endeavored to show, that the same evolutions can as easily be made to the rear or on a reverse flank, as to the front or original pivot flank; also that the proposed method of forming the battalion is adapted to every manœuvre now practised, (see Note 7.) I must remark, that as the officers would have fixed and known points in the colors, and inward flanks of companies, by which they could at all times judge of the situation of the several parts of the battalion, that right or left would no longer be considered otherwise than as it might happen to be at the time, and, that to know the situation of his company, &c., &c., a soldier would only have to recollect its number and the man next to him on his inward flank; it may be supposed, that the execution of the various movements would be rendered much more simple than it is at present; and that the time necessary to accustom officers and men to this system, could not occasion any inconvenience to the Service.

I may here observe, that some years back I formed my own company into four divisions, to represent the divisions of a battalion, I subdivided each and numbered the different parts from the centre and inward flanks as described; the movements and formations, as shown in the three first examples, were then made, together with several others now practised, viz.; forming subdivisions and sections to the front form file marching, diminishing, and increasing the front of a column on the march, &c., &c., and although the men had had no previous training, these manœuvres were executed without requiring much explanation.

#### ADVANTAGES TO BE DERIVED.

Assuming that the proposed system is practicable, its effects on a brigade or division would be to increase the advantages already experienced by the occasional inversion of battalions. Its effects on the battalion alone, are in a great measure shown in the different examples, particularly the three first; great inconvenience having been often experienced by the tedious, and in the presence of an enemy, dangerous mode now practised of countermarching when in line, especially on broken or intersected ground, or at night; whereas the required change of front can be immediately effected by the countermarch of double files, maintaining, at the same time, the order in which the different parts of the battalion had been originally placed; thereby enabling it, without the risk of confusion to follow up, at the instant, any advantage it may have gained.

When in column, the inconvenience occasioned by the difficulty in making any correct formation on a reverse flank, has been found to be as great, if not greater, than that which is caused in changing from front to the rear when in line; but this may likewise be obviated by the proposed system; since the pivot flanks can be immediately changed from right to left,

or left to right, by the countermarch of ranks outwards.

To these important results may be added, the confidence that would be felt by officers and men in knowing that they were at all times prepared to meet an enemy, from whatever direction he might appear.

In making the above observations, I have been fully sensible of the very great importance of the subject, and of the possibility of my having formed incorrect opinions upon it.

If I have appeared wanting in that reserve expected from officers who have had but little experience, the difficulty I have found in affording the necessary explanations, otherwise than by expressing my sentiments freely, has been the sole cause, and will, I trust, plead my excuse.

The views entertained, may in themselves be of little value; but as they possess originality, some benefit to the Service might result from them, should they chance to produce in others, more able than myself, ideas by which the desired object could be obtained.

#### NOTES.

1. Odd and even appear more appropriate terms than right and left, as the right must become the left, (and the contrary,) after the change of front or flanks by the countermarch of double files, or of ranks outwards.

2. The Commanding Officer knowing any of the officers or men who compose the wings, will at all times easily distinguish one wing from the other, so as to call each by its number; but should he think proper to name either of them, right or left, as it may happen to be right or left, at the time, every man will know whether his company belongs to that wing or not, by means that will be pointed out hereafter.

3. The pivots must necessarily be dressed after the countermarch, but the distances will still be correct for the new formation, although the divisions may be of unequal strength.

4. The examples are better explained by cards to represent companies; the numbers of the companies, subdivisions, and sections being written on both sides, and two of the edges of each card marked black, to indicate the front rank and inward flank. Turning a card over lengthwise represents the countermarch of ranks outwards; turning it over the other way, the countermarch of double files.

5. When the battalion is in line or echelon, the inward flanks are too apparent to be mistaken. When in column, either right or left in front, the pivot flanks and inward flanks in the front wing must of course be the same, and in the rear wing the contrary; but an officer knowing the situation only of the wing he belongs to, (whether front or rear,) would at the moment be able to name the subdivision or section he is required to direct; for instance, in diminishing the front of a column, he would recollect that in the front wing the second subdivisions always double in front of the first, and of course the contrary in the rear wing.

6. When the subdivisions or sections are named



collectively, they must be called right or left, or front or rear, as subdivisions are in similar cases at present distinguished by "reverse;" an exception to this rule may however be made in all movements or formations on the centre; they may then, from the similarity of numbers in the wings, be named by their numbers. See Note 8.

7. The proposed mode of telling off would cause some slight alterations in the words of command, and in two or three cases, perhaps, a change in the manner of performing the manœuvres; for instance, "in retiring by alternate companies," the colors, instead of being separated, would both retire supported by the centre and other companies, whose numbers are odd, leaving the line composed of companies whose numbers are even, to be directed by a non-commissioned officer placed in the centre, from whom the distances are to be preserved.

8. Diminishing or increasing the front of a column in this manner, is departing from the general rule; but as it does not separate the wings as at present, it might, it is presumed, be best to admit it as an exception.

In this case the subdivisions or sections can be distinguished collectively by their numbers.

[We have been disappointed in obtaining the accompanying figures.—*Ed Chron.*]

**EAGLE DANCE.**—An exhibition of this ancient festival of the Choctaws, took place near the Council House, on Bayou Zeal, a short time since.

This has been observed occasionally, ever since the Nation existed, but is so seldom shown that many of the younger portion of the Nation have never witnessed it.

The dancers, four in number, denuded after the style of ball-players, are most grotesquely and uniquely painted, and each holds in one hand a short stick, to which is fastened, with all the paraphernalia of ornament, paint, and binding, some eagle feathers; and in the other hand a cymling or gourd containing some peas or gravel, which is rattled with great violence, accompanied with waving the feathers; meanwhile the performers go through the most uncouth and wild dance imaginable, resembling, in a slight degree, the old English Morris dance, but with less method and infinitely more fantastical. They are accompanied by a dull beating drum, and about twenty vocal chanters, the strangeness of whose melody may be imagined, but not described, for language cannot give its fearful wildness, and harsh intonations. From the violence of the gestures, these actors must soon tire down, while others stand ready to take their places, after a short interlude, during which an old veteran warrior rehearses, with suitable embellishments, the stirring war exploits, and daring feats, in which he participated, when life was in its prime. The dance continued four days and nights. —*Arkansas Intel.*, April 13.

**FLORIDA INDIANS.**—Lieut. A. Montgomery with forty men, all of the 7th Infantry, left here on Tuesday last for the Choctawhatchee, on another expedition against the Indians. We learn that they will be absent forty days. —*Pensacola Gazette*, April 20.

## Foreign Miscellany.

**MILITARY AND MARITIME STATES.**—The Military State includes the whole of the soldiery, from the commander-in-chief down to the raw recruit, or the private who has the honor of being stationed at the post of Storey's gate, who is alluded to by the poet, in the fine line,

"The post of honor is a private station."

In a free country, it is said that the soldier is an object of jealousy, chiefly, we suppose, on account of the impression made by a red coat on the fair sex. As to any other kind of jealousy the soldier creates, we are certainly not aware of it, unless it be the natural jealousy felt by a police-man at the superiority of the steel bayonet over the wooden staff, and the cartridge box over the lanthorn. A soldier does not put off the citizen when he becomes a soldier; and consequently many of our gallant army whose wives are washerwomen, carry out the clothes in time of peace, and others lend a hand in the mangling, which, according to the old jurists, is not out of character with their slaughtering propensities. The laws of this country do not recognize a standing army, so that even when on service, the soldiers are said to go to the seat of war, thus showing that a standing army is never contemplated.

All historians agree in declaring that Alfred invented the Militia, when every man in the kingdom was a soldier; and, considering what sort of soldiers the militia usually are, we should say that every man, woman or child might have been. In those days, the Dukes led the soldiers, and had such power, that Duke Harold, although the wrongful heir, was strong enough to push from off the throne one Edgar Atheling, the rightful heir, an event, which if the Saxons had had a taste for melo-drama, would have made a fine subject for a piece, introducing "a grand combat of two," including all the popular business of Harold cutting at Edgar Atheling's toes, while Edgar Atheling jumped up exclaiming, "No you don't!" with a wink at the prime minister. Then, of course, would have come the grand last movement of clashing of swords together, across the stage, till both disappear at the wing, when Harold would have returned alone, with both swords, in token of victory, and taken his seat on the throne, in which position he might have been "closed in" by the scene shifters.

We have already, in a former chapter, spoken of the necessity a Knight was under to go for a soldier in case of war, but in peace the country was protected by a statute of Henry the Second, making it obligatory on every man to keep a certain quantity of arms; but it does not appear that there was any law insisting on his knowing the use of them. These persons were, however, now and then called out, arms and all; and it is presumed, this was done, as Camden hints, "to enjoye a joyke at ye expenses of ye people."

It is not, perhaps, generally known, that the whole of the dreadful row between Charles the First and the people, arose out a dispute about the militia, the King pulling at them one way and the Parliament the other. The militia all the while was in those days just what it is in these—very indifferent.

After the restoration of Charles the Second, the King's right to do what he liked with the militia was recognized; and there is still a remnant of them who rent a coal shed at Lancaster, which is called the depot, and from which three corpulent sergeants, for they are all officers and no men, would emerge in case of an invasion. During the election riots, the Lancaster militia put itself under the protection of the two policemen in the town; but, in the glorious language of the Constitution, "the militia are, after all, our great defence against foreign aggress-

sion." "After all" means of course, when every thing else had been tried; and then, we say, let England throw herself into the arms of the three sergeants at the coal-shed at Lancaster.

Besides the Militia, there is also the Yeomanry, who are more often called into service, and have several times distinguished themselves by keeping back the boys at processions and on other public occasions. We had almost forgotten to mention the Volunteers, who formerly had the command of all the parochial engines, pumps and fire ladders. That these troops would have stood fire manfully there can be no doubt, for their valor under an incessant pelting of water, was frequently put to the test during showers to which they were so often exposed, that it was once in contemplation to add an umbrella to the regulation bayonet. The Lumber Troop must not be forgotten, whose last recorded exploit was an encounter with the landlord of the public house where the troop had its quarters.

Martial Law is a sort of law in which the military authorities do as they like with their own, and hang soldiers wholesale for the sake of preserving discipline. This can only be done in time of war; and it is now quite settled, that if a lieutenant hang a private for the mere fun of the thing in time of peace, it would be murder, for it is against *Magna Charta*; so that it is fortunate for the heads of her Majesty's Foot that *Magna Charta* was hit upon.

There is an annual Mutiny act which provides for the government of the army; and, according to this any soldier shamefully deserting a post, such as walking away from the lamp post, at Storey's gate, or sleeping on the said post (he must be a deuced clever fellow to manage that,) or giving advice to a rebel (unless perhaps he advised a rebel to be off about his business,) or making signs to the enemy (though surely he might shake his fist at the foe,) would be liable to any punishment, from death downwards to a drill, or from the strong room upwards to the scaffold.

There are, however, privileges belonging to the soldiery, such as the right of making a will when on actual service, by saying how he wishes to dispose of his property; so that, in the field of battle, if a soldier sees a cannon ball coming towards his head, he has only to say, "I give and bequeath all I have to so and so;" and if any of his comrades should have heard what he said, and live to repeat it, and remember exactly what it was, there is no doubt that the will would be a very good will in its way, and certainly quite strong enough to convey as much property as probably would be left by

The soldier who lives on his pay,  
And spends half a crown out of sixpence a day.

The Maritime State is the next topic we have to touch upon; and when we think of the glory of the Navy, the valor of the British tar, the hearts of oak, and all the rest of it, our timbers naturally begin to shiver, and we involuntarily go through a sort of mental Naval hornpipe as a tribute to the maritime prowess of Britannia, who has ruled the waves, the whole waves, from time immemorial.

The mode of manning the Navy, is, in time of war, to resort to the liberty of the press, or in other words, to seize hold of any one who comes in the way, and make "heart of oak" of him, whether his heart may be disposed to sympathize with wainscotting or not, and to turn him at once into a British tar, by pitching him on board a vessel. Some doubt has been thrown on the legality of impressment; but Sir Michael Forester, who is a regular special pleader, makes out that it must be a law, because it is mentioned in other laws, though there is no law in existence to which the other laws refer; and consequently, as A is to B, so is B to C, which makes it

as clear as A B C that A may B(e) pressed to go to C whenever there is any occasion for his services. Thus the power of impressment resides somewhere; but where that somewhere is, nobody knows; and, as we are fortunately at peace, nobody thinks it worth while to inquire. It has recently been enacted that no seaman shall serve more than three years against his will, unless he is made to serve longer, and then he must; so this boon to impressed seamen helps them out of their difficulty much in the same way as the Irishman lengthened his ladder, by cutting a bit from the top and joining it on at the bottom.

The privileges of soldiers and seamen are great; for, if the soldier loses his arms in battle, there is Chelsea Hospital to lend him a hand; and a sailor who is deprived of both his legs by a cannon ball, has nothing to do but quietly to walk into Greenwich.—*Comic Blackstone.*

UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION.—The thirteenth annual meeting of the members of the United Service Institution was held on the 2d March, to receive the Report of the Council, and to elect officers for the ensuing year. Captain Smyth, R.N., (in the absence of Lord Prudhoe,) was called to the chair. From the report of the council it appeared, that the funded property of the Institution amounts to 6700*l.* in the three per cent. consols, 300*l.* of stock having been purchased during the past year. The number of members reported at the last annual meeting was 4142, since which 155 had been admitted; deaths, 127; withdrawals, 75; which reduced the present number to 4095. The estimated income for the ensuing year would be altogether about 1600*l.* The expenditure for the year would not exceed 1235*l.* The council had expended 237*l.* in the purchase of standard books, and the library had every year become more valuable. Amongst the donations to the Museum was a curious collection of Chinese arms and implements, presented to Commander Hall, R.N., late of Nemesis; and three valuable models of fortifications, contributed by Mr. Lane Fox. The council strongly recommended the expediency of forming a collection of arms of all nations, offensive and defensive, including those of antiquity, as well as those of modern invention. Also, of procuring models of military works, and of naval and military machines, used in warfare in past and present times; together with scientific instruments, books, and documents relating to naval and military subjects. The following officers were elected Members of the Council:—Capt. Grove, R. N., Dr. Forbes, K.C.H., Capt. Sweeney, R. N., Major Gen. Taylor, Lieut. Colquhoun, R.A., Dr. R. Felkin, Capt. Darling, R.N., Lieut. Blackmore, R.N.

The gallant Chairman congratulated the meeting on the prosperous and efficient state of the Institution. It was gratifying to find the members of both Services thus united for the advancement of science. It was only by means of an institution of that character that the merit of individual skill and ingenuity could be brought into practical operation. A few years back, science was but coldly looked upon in the Navy; indeed, a Flag Officer had once said, "Let us have nothing to do with that legerdemain;" but in after times the value of scientific discovery, as applicable to warfare, was universally admitted.



# STATIONS OF THE BRITISH ARMY AND NAVY NEAR AMERICA, APRIL 1, 1844.

## ARMY.

First Foot, Second Battalion, Quebec.  
Fourteenth Foot, Canada.  
Twentieth Foot, Bermuda.  
Twentieth Foot, Reserve Battalion, Bermuda.  
Twenty Third Foot, Barbadoes.  
Twenty Third Foot, Reserve Battalion, Canada.  
Forty Third Foot, Montreal.  
Forty Eighth Foot, Jamaica.  
Sixtieth Foot, Second Battalion, Jamaica.  
Sixty Eighth Foot, Canada.  
Seventy First Foot, Reserve Battalion, Canada.  
Seventy Fourth Foot, Montreal.  
Seventy Seventh Foot, Jamaica.  
Eighty First Foot, Canada.  
Eighty Second Foot, Quebec.  
Eighty Ninth Foot, Canada.  
Ninety Third Foot, Canada.  
Rifle Brigade, Second Battalion, Halifax, N. S.  
Rifle Brigade, Reserve Battalion, Halifax, N. S.  
Second West India Regiment, Jamaica.  
Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment, Canada.  
Royal Newfoundland Companies, Newfoundland.

## NAVY,

*With the years when the vessels were built, and  
dates of commission of the officers in command.*

Albatross, 16, 1842, Com. R. Yorke, 1833, Vera Cruz.  
Columbia, steamer, Lieut. Com. J. Harding, 1815, North America.  
Gleaner, 2, steam vessel, Sec. Mast. H. Hill, Bermuda.  
Griffon, 3, 1832, Lt. Com. C. Jenkin, 1829, North America.  
Helena, 16, Com. Sir C. Ricketts, 1831, West Indies.  
Hermes, 2, steam vessel, 1835, Lt. Com. W. Carr, 1821, West Indies.  
Illustrious, 72, 1803, Vice Admiral, Sir C. Adam, K. C. B., Capt. J. E. Erskine, 1838, West Indies.  
Inaam, receiving ship, Commodore A. R. Sharpe, C. B., 1813, Jamaica.  
Inconstant, 36, 1836, Capt. C. H. Neemantle, 1825, West Indies.  
Lark, 4, surveying vessel, 1830, Lieut. G. B. Lawrence, 1843, West Indies.  
Mohawk, Com. W. N. Powell, 1839, Canada.  
Montreal, Lieut. Com. J. Tyssen, 1832, Lake Erie.  
Pickle, 2, 1827, Lieut. Com. J. A. Bainbridge, 1826, West Indies.  
Pique, 36, 1834, Captain the Hon. M. Stopford, 1825, North America.  
Resistance, 1805, tr., Captain F. Liardet, 1840, North America.  
Ringdove, 16, 1833, Com. Sir W. Daniell, Knt., 1826, West Indies.  
Romney, depot, 1815, Lt. Com. R. McClure, 1837, Havana.  
Rose, 18, 1821, Com. H. R. Sturt, 1839, West Indies.

Thunder, 6, surveying vessel, 1829, Com. E. Bainett, 1838, West Indies.

Vestal, 26, 1833, Captain C. Talbot, 1839, N. A.  
Wasp, 16, 1812, Com. H. Bagot, 1838, West Indies

## TO MARINERS.

NAPLES, Feb. 29, 1844.—Upon the mole of the fort facing the sea at Brindisi, at the height of 123 palms, equivalent to 32.54 metres, above the level of the sea, there has now been established a lighthouse, illuminated in the ancient manner. The latitude is 40 deg. 59 min. 17 sec. N., the longitude 15 deg. 37 min. 57, sec. meridian of Paris, and 3 deg. 42 min. 50 sec. meridian of the Royal Observatory at Naples. This new light has been lighted since the 20th of January last.

PENICHE LIGHTHOUSE.—Through the Great Custom house of Lisbon, it is made known, that in order to prevent the inconvenience arising from the almost complete similarity of rotation in the mechanism of the Berlengas and Cape Carveciro, or Peniche lighthouses, the motion of the latter has been altered so as to repeat the brightest light every 30 seconds, which produces an almost continual light, and renders the two lighthouses totally distinct from each other.—*Lisbon Custom House, March 8, 1844.*

During the months of July and August next, the lighthouse situated on the island of Santa Ana, coast of Maranhão will not exhibit any light, in order to undergo certain repairs which the Government have thought necessary in that lighthouse.

ANOTHER INFERNAL MACHINE.—In the Senti nello, of Marseilles, we learn that M. Daniel Borine, a navigator, 28 years of age, has invented a machine of such effect that, defended by it, towns can no longer be carried by assault. The machine, of which gunpowder forms no part of its composition, would be capable of destroying by an explosion, without noise, all the enemy's troops, at a distance of 1000 yards from the town to be attacked.

CAMPAIGNS OF NAPOLEON.—It is stated by the last arrival from France, that General Bertrand, on his death-bed, charged his brother, M. L. Bertrand, to present to the city of Lyons a copy of the campaigns of Italy, written by the Emperor at the island of St. Helena. Napoleon had two copies of these memoirs made, one of which he gave to General Bertrand.

FRENCH MARINE.—Rear Admiral Hamilton is appointed commander of French Station in *Oceanica*, and is to hoist his flag on the Didon frigate. Capt. Des Troses is about to proceed from Brest to the South Pacific, being appointed to the station of Madagascar and Bourton. He will have under his orders five or six ships, and will exhibit the French flag along the whole coast of Africa, and in the Arabian seas. One of his duties will be to extend the relations of France with Abyssinia, and in Madagascar.

A French naval force has been ordered to proceed to Lisbon, to keep the British squadron in that quarter in observation, and ostensibly for the protection of French citizens, should they be menaced by events arising out of the revolution.

They have committed a sad blunder in respect to the Great Britain, having actually built the vessel so large that she cannot pass out at the dock gates, which, at Bristol, separate the "Floating Harbor," or artificial sheet of water from the river Avon! She is thus in the condition of Robinson Crusoe's boat. It is a bungling piece of business, and it is thought she cannot be got out into the river at less expense than £1,000! The following appears in a Bristol paper:

#### THE "GREAT BRITAIN'S" LAMENT.

PRY the sorrows of a great steam-boat,  
Which Bristol's sons have built, of monster size;  
And doom'd within its native dock to float,  
The ridicule of all beholding eyes.

Full many a weary month they toil'd with care,  
My ponderous frame to rear, with hearts of pride;  
And oft the wondering people came to stare,  
At my vast fabric and wrought iron side.

They got the Prince, from Windsor's "calm retreat,"  
To stand a sponsor to my future fame:  
Gay was the scene, and brilliant was the fete,  
Which gave to Bristol's ship Great Britain's name,

They cheer'd, huzza'd, and cried "God save the Queen,"

"His Worship," Mr. Mayor, on my behalf,  
Due speeches made, and said, "We've honor'd been  
To welcome here Victoria's better half."

Round flew champagne; they cheer'd, and one cheer more,

And still another, rent the echoing air:  
The shout resounded from the ship to shore,  
"God save the Queen and Albert, royal pair!"

The feast was o'er, the brilliant day was past,  
The wine was dash'd upon my lofty bows;  
And with due congees made, the Prince, at last,  
Had left, for dinner with his royal spouse;

When, sad revision! men of method came,  
And, 'cross my beam, their two-foot rules applied,  
And on the Dock Directors cried out, "Shame!"  
To pass their narrow locks I'm found too wide.

And now within these walls I'm still confined,  
Far from the bounding ocean kept ashore:  
And wondering why that no one was inclined  
To try that fatal measuring-stick before.

Oh Dock Directors! hear my sad appeal,  
Break down your walls and open wide your door;  
And let me once the joys of freedom feel;  
And NEVER will I trouble Bristol more!

A SYMPATHIZER.

BRITISH ROYAL MARINES.—It is said that an extensive retirement amongst the commandant, field officers, and captains of the Royal Marines has been determined upon, which will give about thirty steps to the junior branches of that distinguished service.

FRENCH CAMEL REGIMENT.—A camel-mounted regiment has just been formed by the French government of Algiers,

## Communication.

### COURTS MARTIAL.

There is a great want of a standard work of authority on our court martial system; even reports of decisions would be very useful, furnishing a foundation of approved precedents. Allow me to invite a discussion of the subject, (which may lead to good,) by proposing a few questions:

If an officer were charged with conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and he were found guilty of uttering a contemptible falsehood, as a specification to that charge, the inference is, that he would be found guilty of the charge. The next point would be the punishment. A law of Congress declares that an officer thus convicted shall be "dismissed the service." (83d art. of war.) This is a simple minded induction; but if such court had predetermined *not* to dismiss the officer, they would probably attempt an evasion of the law; but there is this difficulty: that they would thus in their "finding" expose this settled resolve, by qualifying it in anticipation of the "sentence." Might such a course be overlooked? Some might answer, yes! if the officer, with this exception, were esteemed honest, honorable, respectful, obedient, sober, and brave.

An honorable man might, in giving testimony, make a mistake as to a point of fact; but if a man were to make three or four such mistakes in a few minutes, or a few words, it would be proof positive to unbiassed minds, that they were wilful; *unless*, beside circumstances of the plainest absence of all interest in the falsehoods, of all passion and feeling, an unimpeachable character for honor and veracity were seemingly to forbid the possibility of it. Could a court under *these* circumstances, to give room for escape, undertake to define *falsely* differently from Johnson and Walker, and call it *erroneously*?

Again. If it were specified that an officer, by a total disregard for truth, had established a character for habitual lying, and a court were to decline for any reason, good or bad, to take testimony on the specification, what would *then* be their proper course? To "throw it out?" To state that they had declined taking evidence? or, without remark, find *not guilty*? If the last, would not the world understand that the matter had been "well and truly tried according to evidence?" If so, would they be deceived?

### SUBSCRIBER.

NAVAL COURT MARTIAL.—A Naval General Court Martial will convene at the navy yard, on Monday the 22d inst. for the trial of Lieutenants John W. West and R. C. Cogdell. The officers ordered to constitute the court are, Capt. Lawrence Rousseau, President, Capt. Thomas Paine, and Commanders Wm. F. Shields, Ed. C. Rutledge, Victor M. Randolph, Duncan N. Ingraham, and J. T. Gerry, members; any five of whom may form a quorum and proceed with the business of the Court. Captain Rousseau and Commanders Randolph and Shields have already arrived, and the remainder of the members are hourly expected. Walker Anderson, Esq., is appointed to act as Judge Advocate.—*Pensacola Gazette*, April 20.



**Domestic Miscellany.****LARGE GUNS AND IRON SHIPS.**

A LETTER FROM GEN. H. A. S. DEARBORN TO  
HON. GEORGE EVANS.

MY DEAR SIR: As great excitement has been produced by the awful and lamentable disaster on board of the Princeton, and large guns and steamships of war having consequently become extremely interesting subjects of comment and inquiry, I have been induced to submit the following remarks thereon to your consideration:

The discovery of gunpowder is usually attributed to Bartholdus Schwartz, who, it is said, invented it in 1320; but it was known to, if not first made by Roger Bacon, as early as 1270; and the Germans trace back the invention of cannon to 1250, ascribing it to Albertus Magnus, a Dominican monk. It is also alleged, by some authors, that gunpowder was known to the Chinese, and that fire-arms were used by them and the Hindoos before the Christian era.

It is certain that cannon were employed by Edward III in his campaigns in France; for he having caused five field-pieces to be placed on a hill, near the village of Cressy, they chiefly contributed to decide in his favor the memorable battle of that name.

The Venetians made use of large guns in the war against the Genoeese in 1380, and in 1453 Mahomet II battered the walls of Constantinople with heavy cannon, which discharged stone balls.

Cannon were originally made of bars of iron soldered together lengthwise, or of sheets of iron fastened together and fortified with strong iron hoops; some of which are to be seen in the Tower of London, at Woolwich, and in the Arsenal in Lisbon. These were gradually supplanted by brass cannon, and those of iron were not cast until as late as 1547.

The brass cannon which were early used, were of a huge size. Louis XII had some cast at Tours, which threw an iron ball of a hundred pounds. A cannon was taken at the siege of Dieu, in 1546, by Don John de Castro, and which is still in the Castle of St. Julian in Portugal, which is twenty feet and seven inches in length, six feet three inches in diameter in the middle, and threw a shot weighing one thousand pounds. It is of an unusual kind of metal, and has an Hindostan inscription stating that it was cast in 1400.

There is an eighty-pounder in the Tower, which was brought from Edinburg castle, and is called Mounts' Meg; and one of like size in the Berlin arsenal called the Thunderer.

Formerly, strange and uncommon names were given to cannon. Louis XII had twelve cast of extraordinary size, which were called after the Apostles. There is one at Bois-le-Duc called the Devil, and two sixty pounders at Bremen called the Messengers of Bad News. These singular names were generally laid aside, and those of birds and serpents adopted, viz: Culverin, Falcon, Falconer, Basilisk, Aspic,

Dragon, &c., according to the weight of the shot. The largest guns for forts and ships of war were twenty-four, thirty-two, and forty-two pounders; and the smallest three, four, and six pounders for the field.

The Turks, if not the first to use cannon, surpassed all other nations in the size of those destructive engines of war.

When an attack on Constantinople was apprehended from the Russian fleet, which was sent into the Archipelago, by the Empress Catharine II, in 1770, Baron de Tott, who was attached to the suit of Comte de St. Priest, the French Ambassador at the Ottoman Court, was employed by the Grand Seigneur to superintend the repair, and to strengthen the defensive works on the Dardanelles.

In the very interesting memoirs of that remarkable man is the following account of an enormous piece of ordnance which he found in the large castle near the entrance of the Dardanelles.

"It would carry a marble ball of eleven hundred pounds weight. It was cast in brass in the reign of Amurath, and was composed of two parts joined together by a screw, where the charge is contained, after the manner of an English pistol. Its breech rested against a massive stone-work, and it was placed upon timber, under an arch, which served as an embrasure. I could not make use of this immense cannon in the out works, and, as they were disposed in such a manner as to prevent its being fired, the Turks murmured at my paying so little regard to a piece of artillery which, no doubt, had not its equal in the universe.

"The Pacha agreed with me that the difficulty of charging it would not allow, in case of an attack, of its being fired more than once; but he urged that this single discharge would be so destructive that it would be sufficient to destroy the whole fleet of the enemy. It was easier to give way to this prejudice than to overthrow it, and without changing my plan of defence, I could, by cutting through the epaulements in the direction of the piece, allow it room to be fired. I was willing first to judge of its effects.

"The crowd about me trembled at the proposal; for never had any cannon so formidable a reputation. Friends and enemies were alike to suffer from its fury. To load it required no less than three hundred and thirty pounds of powder. I sent to the head engineer to prepare a priming. All who heard me give this order immediately disappeared, to avoid the predicted danger. The Pacha was about to retreat, and it was with some difficulty that I persuaded him that he ran no risk in a small kiosk near the angle of the castle, from whence he might observe the effect of the ball. The engineer showed no great resolution in the remonstrances he made; but at last I rather silenced than animated him, by promising to expose myself to the same danger. I took my station on the stone-work behind the cannon, and felt a shock like an earthquake. At the distance of six hundred yards, I saw the ball divide into three fragments, which crossed the strait, rebounded from the water to the opposite mountain, and left the sur-

face of the sea all in a foam through the whole breadth of the channel.

"This experiment, while it dissipated the fears of the people, the Pacha, and engineers, proved to me likewise, the terrible effects of such a ball; and I cut through the epaulment in the direction of the gun."

Among the pieces found in the fort was an enormous ancient brass culverin, carrying a ball of sixty pounds, which Baron de Tott mounted in one of the batteries he had erected.

The caliber of the largest gun in the fortress on the Dardanelles being twenty-eight inches, it would require an iron ball of nearly 3,000 pounds.

In the Kremlin, at Moscow, is a monstrous gun, which it is supposed was found in one of the Turkish castles taken by the Russians on the coast of the Black Sea. It is sixteen feet long, and the diameter of the caliber is three feet.

Sea-mortars for bomb-ketches, discharging thirteen inch shells, were first used by Reynau or Renard\* at the bombardment of Algiers, by the French fleet under the command of Admiral Du Quesne in 1683.

The largest projectiles which have been thrown in modern times were from mortars used by the French in the siege of Cadiz during the peninsula war, and at Antwerp when that city was besieged in the recent conflict between the kingdoms of Belgium and Holland. The size of the former is not recollected; but it exceeded that of any which had hitherto been used, and is now preserved as a trophy in front of the palace of St. James in London. The caliber of the other was twenty-four inches in diameter.

Although immensely large guns were made soon after the invention and use of gunpowder in war, they were finally abandoned as unmanageable for cannon of a smaller size, and for several centuries they did not exceed forty-two pounders, while those most commonly used in forts and ships of war, were eighteen, twenty-four, and thirty-two pounders. But recently a disposition has been evinced among the most intelligent officers in the armies and navies of Europe, as well as in this country, to go back to the primitive employment of cannon, and of the dimensions of these tremendous engines of destruction.

The first experiment in modern times to increase the calibers of guns was made by Gen. Robert Melville, of the British army. A gun on his plan was cast at the Carron foundry, in Scotland, in 1779, under the direction of Charles Gascoigne, Esq., the superintendent of that foundry. The diameter of the bore was eight inches, and the length six diameters. The diameter of the chamber was equal to that of a forty-two pounder, and contained five and a half pounds of powder. The weight was thirty-one cwt. This gun, which the inventor called a "smasher," was not only intended for the discharge of round, grape, and canister shot, but hollow shot or shells.

\* Reynau was a distinguished mathematician and naval architect, and one of the most eminent military engineers during the reign of Louis XIV. He was also employed in Spain, and received an appointment as Lieutenant-General.

Although several experiments were made with this gun in presence of Sir Adolphus Oughton, then commander-in-chief in Scotland, General Melville, and many officers of the corps of engineers and artillery, with such success that it was recommended in a report made by Sir Adolphus, that "these guns should be introduced into the naval and military service," no encouragement was given therefor by the Government, because it was regarded as a novelty and innovation, and as a departure from the common hackneyed practice and customs by the public boards, to which the subject was referred; and which, at that time, were rarely composed of individuals of the first talents, liberality, and information, and consequently were slavish adherents to what *had been*, rather than promoters of new and useful discoveries. The proprietors, however, of the Carron foundry cast a number of a smaller size, which were purchased and used in privateers and letters of marque, and the demand soon became frequent for them during the remainder of the American Revolutionary war, while some of the "smashers" were gradually introduced into the navy. The naval officers who first made use of them were Captain Keith Elphinstone, afterwards Admiral Keith, and Captain Sir Henry Trollope. After the war commenced with France in 1793, carronades, as they were ultimately designated, came into general use, and were finally adopted in all navies of Europe and this country as a portion of their armament.

By experiments made at Leith by Colonel Frasier, of the Engineer Corps, with an eight inch or sixty-eight pound carronade, it was found "that the shells went further than the solid shot when the gun was fired either horizontally, or point blank,\* or at an elevation not exceeding two degrees."

During Mr. Jefferson's administration the Secretary of War directed that chambered guns should be cast which would throw balls of fifty and one hundred pounds, which was done under the superintendence of Colonel Bomford, of the Ordnance Corps, and, after having been thoroughly proved, a number of them were mounted in the forts in the harbor of New York, and several others on the Eastern and Southern coasts of the United States. They were called Columbiades.

The eight and ten-inch chambered or bomb cannon, for throwing solid shot and shells, which have received the name of "*Paixhan*," from that of the General who has the credit of introducing them into the French naval and military service, only differ from the howitzer, the carronade, and Columbiade, by being a little longer in proportion to the diameter of the caliber, and in the external form, as to the two former.

It is not only remarkable but inexplicable why the attention of scientific, experienced, and able military and naval officers was not sooner directed to the subject of increasing the size of cannon, when the

\* The British point blank is the point where the trajectory of the shot crosses the horizontal plane on which the wheels of the gun-carriage rest. The French and American point blank is that point where the line of sight crosses the line of fire, or that line which extends in the direction of the axis of the caliber.



cause of their abandonment must have been merely the difficulty of managing them, from their not being mounted on appropriate carriages, and which has since been so easily done by the aid of those mechanical powers in their construction which had been so successfully applied to machines for giving command, movement, and direction to other more ponderous bodies.

Those immense ancient guns were without trunnions, and, instead of being placed on carriages, were laid horizontally, or at a slight elevation upon the earth, on platforms, in the direction in which they were to be fired, with the greatest desired effect, either against passing ships or approaching columns of assault; and this inefficient mode of using cannon was continued in the forts and ships of China, until the recent invasion of that empire by Great Britain, and was the chief cause of the feeble resistance which was made to the attacks of the fleet and army of that nation, during the brief war which ended so dishonorably and disastrously to the Chinese.

It appears, from the following remarks made by Napoleon to Count de Las Casas, at St. Helena, in 1816, that he had contemplated introducing much heavier cannon for defending the frontiers of France than any which had been employed for that purpose in the military works which had been projected by the ablest engineers of that or any other country:

"The Emperor said that he found in Rollin and even in Cæsar, circumstances of the Gallic war which he could not understand; and when he spoke of the immense works which the Generals got performed by the soldiers, the ditches, walls, great towers, and galleries, he observed that in those times every exertion was directed to transactions on the spot, whereas, in ours, they were employed in conveyance. He thought the ancient soldiers labored in fact more than ours. Ancient history, however, said he, embraces a long period, and the system of war often changed. In our days it is no longer that of the times of Turenne and Vouban: campaign works were growing useless; even the system of our fortresses had become problematical or ineffectual: the enormous quantity of mortars and howitzers changed every thing. It was no longer against the horizontal attack that defence was requisite, but also against the curve and reflected lines. None of the ancient fortresses thenceforth afforded shelter; they ceased to be tenable; no country was rich enough to maintain them. The revenue of France would be insufficient for her lines of Flanders, for the exterior fortifications were now not above a fourth or fifth of the necessary expense. Casemates, magazines, places of shelter, secure from the effects of bombs, were now requisite, and were too expensive. He complained particularly of the weakness of modern masonry; the engineer department is radically defective in this point. It had cost him immense sums, wholly thrown away.

"Struck with these novel truths, the Emperor had invented a system altogether at variance with the axioms hitherto established; it was to have metal of an extraordinary caliber to advance beyond the principal line towards the enemy, and to have that prin-

cipal line itself, on the contrary, defended by a great quantity of small moveable artillery: hence the enemy would be stopped short in his sudden advance; he would have only weak pieces to attack powerful ones with; he would be commanded by those of great caliber, round which the resources of the fortress, the small pieces, would form in groups, or even advance to a distance, as skirmishers, and might follow all the movements of the enemy, by means of their lightness and mobility. The enemy would then stand in need of battering cannon; he would be obliged to open trenches: time would be gained, and the true object of fortification accomplished. The Emperor employed this method with great success, and to the astonishment of the engineers, in the defence of Vienna, and in that of Dresden; he wished to have employed it in that of Paris, which city could not, he thought, be defended by any other means; but of the success of this method he had no doubt."\*

The unfortunate and deplorable explosion of the large gun on board the Princeton should have no other influence than to induce greater caution in the manner of constructing and proving these novel cyclopean arms of devastation; for experiments have been so extensively and successfully made in France and England, to render their fabrication perfect, and to test their practical efficiency in battle, that no doubt can now be entertained of the possibility of their being made sufficiently strong to render bursting no more common than in the trial of the best manufactured bronze and iron guns, of the various calibers which have been so long used in forts and navies and on the battle-field.

Accidents must occasionally be expected whenever and wherever such an immeasurably powerful material as gunpowder is employed.† But this being a new era in the mode of prosecuting naval and military expeditions, it is to be confidently anticipated that guns will be ultimately constructed for throwing shot and shells, not only of two hundred and forty, but even of two thousand pounds weight; and especially in batteries, intended for the protection of important harbors and roadsteads. Mr. Alger, the intelligent and enterprising founder at South Boston, who has cast for the army and navy some of the most perfect brass and iron guns, of all sizes, from six-pounders to ten-inch Paixhan bomb-cannon and thirteen-inch mortars, that have ever been made in this country, will unhesitatingly undertake to cast cannon of iron or bronze, of the requisite dimensions, to throw a shell weighing a ton at least. There are, probably, other ingenious artists, in similar large establishments where cannon are cast, and particularly that near West Point, who will obligate themselves to do the same thing.

The Ordnance Corps has been actively engaged for a number of years in prosecuting inquiries and making experiments on all the varieties of cast iron produced in the United States and several other coun-

\* Las Casas's Journal, 2d part, vol. 1 p. 172.

† The power of gunpowder has not been ascertained. Count Rumford estimated it equal to 50,000 atmospheres, and other experiments make it not less than 20,000.

tries, as well as the combinations of tin, zinc, and copper, to ascertain which of the former, and what admixtures of the latter metals, were the best for cannon and other military purposes. A great number of iron and bronze cannon, mortars, and howitzers have been cast upon the most perfect models which could be devised, at several of the largest foundries in this country, under the direction of the scientific and able officers of that very useful and highly important corps.

Among the first ten-inch guns, for throwing shot and shells, constructed in this country, were those cast by Mr. Alger; and having seen one of them fired a number of times with shot and shells, in the experiments which were prosecuted by Colonel Bomford to test their strength and power as a weapon of war, I was fully convinced of their immense efficiency both for ships and forts.

The experiments were made at Dorchester point, and shells were thrown across the bay, which fell on the opposite shore, a distance of over three miles, as was first ascertained by triangulation, and verified by an accurate admeasurement on the ice the following winter.

From the ingenious manner in which the carriages for these ponderous cannon are constructed, they are as adroitly managed as a twenty-four pounder; and the effects of a shot or shell of such a large size can be readily conceived, as compared with balls from the heaviest guns which have hitherto been used in batteries or ships of war.

Professor Treadwell, of Harvard University, has been several years prosecuting experiments for manufacturing wrought iron cannon; and all who know him must be fully satisfied that whatever he undertakes connected with the mechanic arts will certainly be achieved; so confidently can they rely upon his pre-eminent genius, extensive scientific attainments, great practical experience, indomitable perseverance, zealous enterprise, and untiring industry. He has not only become distinguished by the invention of the wonderful machinery which is employed for manufacturing cordage at the navy yard in Charlestown, and for his printing press, which is worked by steam or water-power, but is considered unrivalled in his knowledge of the mechanical sciences and their successful application to all the useful arts. With the creative genius of a Watt and a Fulton, he combines the mathematical exactness and characteristic energies of an Archimedes.

As Great Britain, France, Russia, and the other maritime kingdoms of Europe have adopted the large-chambered guns for throwing shells horizontally, both for the armament of batteries and ships of war, and more especially for that other formidable addition to the means of national defence and attack, the *iron steam-frigate*, it becomes indispensably necessary that we should follow their example; and a liberal spirit having been thus far evinced by Congress to render our military and naval preparations for meeting the tempest of war as efficient as those of the most powerful nations with which we may come in conflict, it is to be presumed that measures will be progressively adopted for the complete protection of

our far-extended commercial fleets, the security of our numerous maritime emporiums, and for vindicating the rights and honor of the country on the land and on the deep.

The construction of *iron ships* and the invention of the horizontal propellers by Captain Hunter, of the United States Navy, and the spiral or Archimedian wheel of Mr. Ericsson,\* have established a most important epoch in naval architecture and steam navigation. The effect of the two latter discoveries will render it necessary for the European nations to abandon the vast number of war-steamers which they have built, or to replace the present vertical wheels with those of Hunter or Ericsson; for while the former are exposed to destruction by every shot that is fired from opposing ships or forts, the latter, being deep under the surface of the water, are perfectly secure against injury; and an engagement, therefore, between two frigates of equal size and armament, thus dissimilarly propelled, would be as unequal as that of a naked gladiator against a champion cased in Milan steel.

Captain Stockton is entitled to great credit for the zealous manner in which he has devoted his time, energies, and fortune to develop the immense advantages of steamships fitted up in conformity to Ericsson's method of propulsion, and the other valuable improvements which have been devised in this country, or adopted in any other.

Captain Hunter has justly acquired a high reputation for genius, talents, science, and enterprise, by the successful practical results which he has attained in naval architecture, and for his mechanical ingenuity in the discovery of a new and invaluable mode of propulsion, and on steam-vessels, which reflects lustre to that important service to which his whole life has been so honorably and usefully devoted.

The advantages and expediency of substituting *iron* for *wood* in the construction of vessels of all kinds, have been so thoroughly illustrated by numerous experiments as to render it certain that ultimately iron and the other metals will be the only materials employed in naval architecture; for so conclusive are the multitude of well-authenticated facts and irrefragable the principles upon which they are based, and so triumphant have been the results which experience has verified as to the durability, strength, economy, safety, and efficiency of vessels thus built, that but a brief period of time only is required to establish that conclusion; for it will be realized before one generation shall have passed away.

The decay of timber-built ships is so rapid and great that the expense for repairs in our navy amounts to a sum equal to the original cost in less than sixteen years, as appears by the following facts, which were derived from official reports laid before Congress.

The ship-of-the-line Delaware was built in 1820, at a cost of \$543,368; and the repairs, up to 1841, amounted to \$453,783.

The frigate Brandywine, built in 1825, cost \$299,218, and the repairs in 1838 had amounted to 377,-

\* He is a native of Sweden, and was a captain of engineers in that kingdom.



The sloop-of-war *Falmouth*, built in 1827, cost \$94,093, and the repairs, up to 1841, had been \$225,120.

Thus the expense for repairs on those three ships, during an average period of less than sixteen years, amounted to \$1,055,569, being \$118,890 more than the original cost, making the aggregate amount of cost and repairs \$1,992,248, a sum sufficient to build *six iron steam ships of war*, of equal efficiency to the largest frigates, if not ships-of-the-line.

By a statement in a late English paper it appears that eight hundred sail of vessels, belonging to the British dominions, were lost at sea or wrecked in 1833, being one-thirteenth of the whole number, which at that period was 10,400 sail. The sea losses in 1842 were seven hundred sail. It has also been ascertained that the annual destruction of the navigation of that nation, by the disasters of the sea, and ships condemned and broken up as unworthy of repair, amounts to from one-eleventh to one-twelfth of the whole number; and the result from the like causes is nearly the same in the United States. But, to be within undoubted limits, at least eight per cent. of all the British and American vessels are annually condemned as irreparably decayed or lost at sea. So rapid is the decay of the steamboats on the Ohio, Mississippi, and other tributary rivers, that they do not last over five years.

These facts show at what a vast expense the usual aggregate number of timber-built vessels, which are constantly employed in all kinds of navigation, are kept up. How preferable is it, then, to make use of iron instead of wood in the construction of ships; for it will extend their lives to at least fifty years, and probably beyond that period, without the incurrence of any or but a very small expense for repairs, while the diminished losses from shipwreck, in consequence of their durable and more substantial qualities, will be in a ratio proportional to that between the present brief and the thus prolonged age of vessels of all denominations.

The experiment of building *iron armed steam ships*,\* for the naval and revenue service, at New York, Pittsburg, Erie, Buffalo, Oswego, and Boston, on Hunter's and Ericsson's plan of propulsion, under the superintendence of a navy officer for the former and Captain Howard for the latter, will have a most beneficial and important influence; for it will disseminate intelligence among the mechanics in all the various and numerous metallic arts, and give them practical knowledge and skill in the infinitely diversified kinds of work required in the construction of the hulls, engines, and equipments of those vessels; and present to the owners of merchant ships, coasters, and steamboats, on the seacoast, the great lakes, and the Western rivers, models for their inspection, adoption, or improvement, and furnish artists capable of executing similar work in the best manner. The consequences, therefore, cannot fail of being highly advantageous to all parts of the country; as it will accelerate the introduction of iron as a substi-

tute for wood, not only in the construction of steamships, but every other kind of vessel employed, either in foreign commerce or the intercourse between all parts of the Union.

The Government, however, has other and yet higher duties to perform; as the required measures for extending and completing the national defences cannot longer be neglected without jeopardizing the safety of our far-expanded commerce, the security of the numerous cities and towns on a vast line of seacoast, and that of the numerous but scattered population on a still more lengthened and exposed frontier line, sweeping from the river St. Croix to the mouth of the Sabine, and including within its immense circuit the shores of five inland seas, which are more than three times the extent of that on the Atlantic, and the commerce of which, in 1841, amounted to more than sixty-five millions of dollars.

There is a prevalent, but still a very erroneous opinion in this country, that the conduct of legislators should be governed by an axiom which has been derived from, and is only applicable to, the condition of individuals in private life, namely, that their expenses should never exceed their income. This is not only correct in theory, but wise and indispensable in practice, to ensure personal independence, mental quietude, and domestic happiness; for they cannot *command* an increase of revenue to meet an augmented expenditure; but Governments, on the contrary, should so regulate their receipts as that they will be equal in amount to the requisite appropriations. National economy does not consist in withholding supplies, but in the intelligent, able, and prudent manner in which materials are purchased, labor performed, and disbursements made. The national legislators having determined what it is proper to be done "*to promote the general welfare*," they must provide the means for carrying their measures into effect; for they not only have the power, but it is their imperious duty, to increase the revenue in such a manner as will be fully adequate to meet the annual expenditures. It was for this purpose that Congress was invested with the power of devising measures for developing the natural and industrial resources of the country, advancing its prosperity in all the arts of civilization, maintaining internal tranquillity, affording security against invasion and protection from foreign aggressions. These subjects having been gravely considered, and plans for their accomplishment fully matured, the means for their execution are to be unhesitatingly provided; and while that should be done in such a manner as will be the least onerous to the people, still the amount required must be obtained. And when it is to be presumed that the legislators and statesmen who may be elected to preside over the destinies of this great Republic, will be governed by the most enlightened, exalted, and patriotic principles and motives in the discharge of their very extensive and responsible duties, there can be no danger, on the one side, that they will countenance useless and extravagant expenditures; while, on the other, they will be so honest and independent as to fearlessly impose such exactions as shall be deemed necessary and ex-

\* A portion of them were planned by Captain Hunter, and are to be provided with his horizontal propellers, and the others are to have Ericsson's pivot-wheel.

pedient for accomplishing all the great purposes for which the General Government was accomplished.

If adequate appropriations are made during the years of peace for the erection of forts, the establishment of navy yards, foundries, armories, magazines, and arsenals, the building and preparing the equipments of ships, extending and improving the lines of intercommunication, and the preparation of the various munitions of war, as well as giving such an organization to the military and naval forces as a prospective increase, in the event of hostilities, may render expedient, the enormous and oppressive requisitions which must otherwise be demanded when we may be involved in war, will be avoided, to a very considerable extent.

Other nations are thus preparing to meet the anticipated shock of battle on a gigantic scale, and have been thus constantly occupied during the nearly thirty years of peace which have intervened since the dethronement of the Emperor of France. Is it prudent, then, for the United States to linger so far in the rear of the powerful kingdoms of Europe as to be utterly incompetent to cope with either of them, should war become unav avoidable.

It must be recollected that in twenty-five years our population will amount to 40,000,000, and in less than half a century it must increase to 80,000,000. Is it not, then, the imperative duty of the Government, to lay such broad and deep foundation, for the prospective extensions of our *military and naval establishments*, and on such enlarged views and comprehensive principles as well as in such a full and complete manner, as will render it certain that those two mighty arms of national defence shall become efficiently commensurate with the vastly increased population, resources, power, and commanding position which this Republic must inevitably and speedily attain among the nations of the earth?

When the Constitution was adopted the population of the United States was less than 4,000,000, but after the duplications which will have been effected within the next period of fifty years, it will have augmented to twenty times that number. Should we not, therefore, look forward and graduate our measures in conformity to those rapidly approaching and glorious destinies which are to be certainly realized, rather than dwarf our conceptions and curtail our estimates of what is to be done by respective glances towards the diminutive past, and thus be as imbecile in intellectual vigor and deficient in prescience as was then the country in material and personal resources, compared to what they must be in the not far distant future.

When Hercules arrived at manhood, he laid aside his prætextal robe and assumed as his virile mantle the skin of the Nemean lion. If in his cradle there was sufficient strength in his infant hands to strangle the serpents which assailed him, he required the shield of Jupiter and the brazen club of Vulcan to execute the mighty labors which had been imposed upon him when the whole energies of his character were fully developed.

With sentiments of the highest respect, your most obedient servant,

H. A. S. DEARBORN.

HON. GEORGE EVANS, *U. S. Senate.*

HAWTHORN COLLEGE,

ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS, March 11, 1844.

#### FORT WAYNE, ARKANSAS.

*Report of the Secretary of War, (in compliance with a resolution of the Senate,) in relation to the evacuation of Fort Wayne, Arkansas.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, February 20, 1844.

SIR: In answer to the resolution of the Senate of the United States of the 9th instant, requiring the Secretary of War "to furnish the Senate with all correspondence on file in his office, or on file in the office of the Commander-in-chief of the army, upon the subject of a selection for the site for Fort Wayne, on the frontier of Arkansas; also, to inform the Senate if the building of a fort was commenced upon said site, and the reason had for abandoning the erection of Fort Wayne at the point aforesaid; and, also, that he further inform the Senate, whether it is in contemplation to place any more troops upon the borders of Arkansas, for the safety and proper protection of the people of that State." I respectfully transmit, herewith, two reports from the commanding General of the army of the 11th December last and the 19th instant, and a report of the Commissioner of Indian affairs, which contain all the information required by the resolution, so far as it can be furnished by this department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM WILKINS,

*Secretary of War.*

HON. W. P. MANGUM,

*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

#### HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

February 19, 1844.

Under the resolution of the Senate dated February 9, 1844, I beg leave to submit the within report, made to the Secretary of War in December last, and to add: it is not in the contemplation of this office, nor has it been recommended by Brigadier General Taylor, to re-establish the former military post, Fort Wayne, or any new post within that vicinity. It is within my contemplation to propose, at an early day, to reinforce the immediate frontiers of Arkansas with a portion of the present regiment of riflemen, or dragoons, should that regiment be remounted.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

#### HISTORY OF THE EVACUATION OF FORT WAYNE.

On the evacuation of Fort Coffee, on the 19th October, 1838, that command (Captain Stewart's) was ordered to establish the *new post* on the Illinois, (Fort Wayne,) 29th October, 1838. This was done at the solicitation of the whites, on account of the numbers of emigrants settling in that quarter. The better class of Indians have always been opposed to this post, on account of the difficulties and fracas between the dissipated of the Indians and the soldiery. February 12, 1839, a dragoon camp was formed there, relieving the company of infantry. This post was subsequently called Fort Wayne. In June, 1840, it was changed to a more healthy site in the neighborhood. It was evacuated in full the 26th May, 1842, and its garrison ordered to establish Fort Scott, a post essential to constrain the lawless Osages, on representations from citizens of Missouri. The post



of Fort Wayne has never been upheld by officers or on military considerations, except by Lieutenant Colonel Mason, whose report cannot be found. The Cherokees are known to be opposed to it, (that is, the better class,) though there have been petitions for and against it. The treaty of New Echota requires the United States to afford protection in the case of internal dissension and violence; and in some of their petitions they adduce this. July 28, 1841, General Taylor, in relation to Fort Wayne, writes to the adjutant general: "If the post is to be abandoned, the sooner it is done the better, as it will save much *expense to the Government*; and I conceive Fort Gibson sufficiently near the line to effect every object that can be obtained by keeping up Fort Wayne; moreover, the present site of this post is in the most densely populated section of the Cherokee nation, which necessarily brings the disorderly Indians and soldiers often in contact. \* \* By abandoning it, the Indians will be better satisfied, and the inhabitants of Arkansas have nothing more to fear or complain of than they have at present." Fort Wayne was, at this date, merely held by company A, 1st dragoons, to guard the public property; for, by general orders No. 43, August 25, 1840, Col. Mason had been directed to abandon it in full, and take post at Fort Gibson—an order occasioned by the 4th infantry being ordered to relieve the garrisons of Forts Towson, Jesup, and Smith. The 13th February, 1843, General Taylor writes to the adjutant general: "The Cherokee people, with whom I conversed at Fort Wayne, are adverse to the removal of the works from that region, and I was informed that the names of several individuals were placed on a petition for its removal without their knowledge."

The 28th of March, 1843, General Taylor writes to the adjutant general, and says, that notwithstanding the reports sent to Washington, there exists no rumors of danger in the Cherokee nation; that the design of such false reports is to cause the re-occupation of Fort Wayne; and, also, "on the subject of re-occupying Fort Wayne, it is proper to remark, that the position was evacuated by orders from the War Department, without any recommendation to that effect from me; and, although I thought it expedient to change the particular site, yet it seemed to me, at the time, impolitic to break up the post altogether. Now, however, that it has been evacuated for nearly a year, without, my knowledge, any injurious consequences, I see no adequate reason for re-occupying it. The multiplication of small posts is, in some degree, hurtful to the discipline of the troops, and entails heavy expenses in the quartermaster's and subsistence departments. I am therefore, decidedly opposed to the re-establishment of Fort Wayne, or the creation of any new post within the Cherokee country. In case of any real or apprehended difficulty in the settlement around Fort Wayne, a sufficient force of mounted men can be on the spot from Fort Gibson in forty-eight hours, as was exemplified in May last."

By a letter from the adjutant general, dated February 10, 1842, ordering the evacuation of Fort Wayne and establishment of Fort Scott, the Secre-

tary of War directs, in consideration of the pending treaty, that it be held out to the Cherokees that it shall be re-garrisoned by the 2d dragoons, on their coming out of Florida.

A further reason for evacuating Fort Wayne, was the sickness of the neighborhood.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

December 11, 1843.

—  
*Orders to Captain Stewart, originating with the War Department.*

By general orders No. 22, July 5, 1838, Captain Stewart, 7th infantry, and Captain C. Thomas, assistant quartermaster, are ordered to select a site on the Illinois, "in the State of Arkansas," and "within ten miles of its western boundary."

By a letter from the adjutant general's office, July 19, 1838, to Major C. Thomas, quartermaster, (and to Captain Stewart):—

"SIR: I am instructed by the Secretary of War to transmit the following additional instructions respecting the selection of a site and surveying a new road near the Illinois river, Arkansas.

"When the first instructions were given, it was expected that the law of 1836, directing a road to be run west of the states of Arkansas and Missouri, and posts to be established thereon, would be repealed. That not having been done, and the law remaining in full force, it becomes necessary that a site should be selected on the Illinois river, between the route of the road and the State boundary line."

The military road commissioners, however, have never recommended this site, but, in their report, November 16, 1837, on the military road and intermediate posts, they recommended two, viz: the present Fort Scott, (or its neighborhood, the Marais de Ceygne,) and one at Spring river, about 120 miles from Fort Gibson, or 128 miles from Fort Coffee.

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DEPARTMENT OF WAR,

Office Indian Affairs, February 14, 1844.

SIR: A resolution of the Senate of the United States of 9th instant, referred to this office on the 10th, is in the following words:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to furnish the Senate with all correspondence on file in his office, or on file in the office of the commander in-chief of the army, upon the subject of a selection for the site for Fort Wayne, on the frontier of Arkansas; also, to inform the Senate if the building of a fort was commenced upon said site, and the reasons had for abandoning the erection of Fort Wayne at the point aforesaid; and, also, that he further inform the Senate, whether it is in contemplation to place any more troops upon the borders of Arkansas, for the safety and proper protection of the people of that state."

In accordance with the object of the above reference, I have caused a careful search to be made amongst the files of this office, and have the honor to report, that no correspondence can be found which immediately relates to, or from which can be deduced, the information called for in the above recited resolution.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

HON. J. M. PORTER,

Secretary of War.

The Chronicle must stop. Its subscription list can tell why. It will be continued, however, until the first of July, for the purpose of closing the present volume.

The public prints having announced that a Court of Inquiry would assemble at Fort Leavenworth, to investigate the conduct of Captain P. St. Geo. Cooke, of the 1st dragoons, on his late expedition to escort the Santa Fe traders, it may be proper to state that the Court have, after deliberation, expressed an opinion that there was nothing harsh and unbecoming in the conduct of Captain Cooke, in disarming a party of Texans under Colonel SNIVELY; that the affair took place *within the territory of the United States*; that Captain Cooke did not exceed his authority, derived from the Secretary of War; and that the confidence reposed in him by his Government was not in any degree misplaced.

Letters have been received in this city from Commodore T. A. C. JONES, dated on board the U. S. Ship *Constellation*, Commodore Kearny, off Rio Janeiro, March 12, from which we learn that the gallant Commodore is on his way home from his command of the U. S. Squadron in the Pacific. The *Constellation* was bound in for provisions and water, and would be detained at Rio probably a week, and then leave for New York, where she is expected to arrive early in May.

Commodore JONES returns home in obedience to the published orders of the Secretary of the Navy, dated in January 1843, which were only seen by him, it appears, in the public newspapers, as he had not received a single letter, relating to his command, from the Secretary of the Navy, since he left the United States, in December, 1841.

U. S. STEAMER PRINCETON.—On Wednesday, the 24th ultimo, the U. S. Steamship Princeton, while lying at the navy-yard, Philadelphia, was struck by a tornado, and thrown completely on her beam ends. Some of her guns broke loose from their fastenings, and, running from the larboard to the starboard side of the vessel, rendered her position for a while precarious. It was with difficulty the guns were got to their proper places, and the ship thus saved from capsizing and sinking.

THE NAVAL ASYLUM.—We learn that the Navy Department have decided that the Naval Asylum at Philadelphia shall be regarded, as it was for many years after its establishment, as a station for the command of a Post Captain. This arrangement will be carried into effect on the 15th of May next, when Commander Wm. W. McKean will transfer the post to Commodore Charles Morgan.—*Pennsylvanian*.

### Naval Intelligence.

HOME SQUADRON.—The sloop-of-war *Vincennes*, Captain Buchanan, sailed from Pensacola on the 19th April, for a cruise to several of the West India islands. The following is a list of her officers:

Commander, Franklin Buchanan.  
Lieutenants, John K. Mitchell, R. W. Meade, R. E. Hoø, Richard Wainwright.  
Acting Master, Joseph N. Barney.  
Purser, Joseph Bryan.  
Surgeon, Lewis W. Minor.  
Assistant Surgeon, A. A. Henderson.  
Lieutenant of Marines, M. R. Kintzing.  
Captain's Clerk, Joseph Gideon.  
Midshipmen, Charles Gray, Jonathan Young, Joseph Parrish.  
Purser's Clerk, N. S. Ingolls.  
Boatswain, Robert Whitaker.  
Gunner, John G. Williamson.  
Carpenter, George Wisner.

The frigate *Potomac* was to sail from Pensacola on the 20th or 21st of April, for Vera Cruz.

MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON.—Sloop-of-War *Fairfield* at Gibraltar 23d March.

### Death.

At Havana, on the 11th instant, DAYTON WILLIAMSON, late commander in the United States Navy.

### April. ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

20—Lieutenant E. D. Townsend, 2d arty, Fuller's.  
21—Major J. W. Ripley, Ordnance, Fuller's.  
22—Lieutenant S. L. Brent, 4th arty, Mr. Brent's.  
23—Captain P. H. Galt, 4th arty, Gen. Scott's.  
Lieut. Thomas Williams, 4th arty, Hope Club.  
Major F. Searle, A. Q. M., Mrs. Peyton's.  
Lieut. J. Selden, 8th infy, Fuller's.  
27—Lieut. S. G. French, 3d arty, Fuller's.  
29—Colonel H. Stanton, staff, Fuller's.  
Lieutenant G. W. Rains, 4th arty, Fuller's.  
Lieutenant J. B. Magruder, 1st arty, Fuller's.  
Major C. Thomas, staff, Fuller's.  
Lieutenant Edward Deas, 4th arty, Fuller's.  
Captain S. M. Plummer, A. Q. M., Fuller's.

AGENCY FOR CLAIMS AT WASHINGTON.—The undersigned offers his services as Agent for Claims upon either of the Departments or Congress.

Particular attention will be paid to the settlement of accounts of disbursing Officers, who may find it inconvenient to attend personally; especially those of the Navy. His experience and practical knowledge will afford many facilities.

Charges will be moderate and regulated by the amount claimed and the extent of services required. Communications (post paid) will receive immediate attention.

CHAS. DE SELDING,

Office, Sixth-street, next to corner of F.

References.—Commodore Charles Stewart, Commodore John Downes, A. O. Dayton, Esq., 4th Auditor, Treasury Department; A. T. Smith, Esq., Chief Clerk, Navy Department; John C. Rives, Esq., Washington; John Boyle, Esq., Washington; James Hoban, Esq., Washington; Chas. O. Handy, Esq., Purser, U. S. N.; John De Bree, Esq., Purser, U. S. N.; R. R. Waldron, Esq., Purser U. S. N.; Saml. P. Todd, Esq., Purser, U. S. N.  
Jan 1—1y.

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